

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended): A method for performing a secure multicast broadcast at a router for keeping unauthorized entities from gaining access to the secure multicast broadcast, the method comprising:

sending a received request to join a multicast broadcast at a user system to an Internet Protocol (IP) multicast address;

determining if the multicast address of the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast IP address based on one of a table or map;

receiving a multicast transmission from a first computer system associated with the multicast address, wherein the received multicast transmission is encrypted,

if the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast address, then

removing the multicast broadcast IP address;

decrypting the sent multicast broadcast;

attaching one of an associated or a local IP multicast address to the decrypted multicast broadcast; and

sending the multicast broadcast to the user system requesting to join, thereby keeping unauthorized entities from gaining access to the secure multicast broadcast because knowledge of the attached associated or a local IP multicast address is only previously known to the first computer system and the user system.

15. (Currently Amended): A router for sending a secure multicast broadcast so that unauthorized entities cannot gain access to the secure multicast broadcast, the router comprising:

a computer device configured to:

send a received request to join a multicast broadcast at a user system to an Internet Protocol (IP) multicast address;

determine if the multicast address of the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast IP address;

receive a multicast transmission from a first computer system associated with the multicast address, wherein the received multicast transmission is encrypted,

if the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast address, then

remove the multicast broadcast IP address;

decrypt the sent multicast broadcast;

attach one of an associated or a local IP multicast address to the decrypted multicast broadcast; and

send the multicast broadcast to the user system requesting to join, thereby keeping unauthorized entities from gaining access to the secure multicast broadcast because knowledge of the attached associated or a local IP multicast address is only previously known to the first computer system and the user system.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended): A router for sending a secure multicast broadcast so that unauthorized entities cannot gain access to the secure multicast broadcast, the router comprising:

a computer device configured to:

send a received request to join a multicast broadcast at a user system to an Internet Protocol (IP) multicast address;

determine if the multicast address of the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast IP address;

receive a multicast transmission from a first computer system associated with the multicast address, wherein the received multicast transmission is encrypted,

if the request to join is associated with a multicast broadcast address, then

remove the multicast broadcast IP address;

decrypt the sent multicast broadcast;

attach one of an associated or a local IP multicast address to the decrypted multicast broadcast; and

send the multicast broadcast to the user system requesting to join, thereby keeping unauthorized entities from gaining access to the secure multicast broadcast because knowledge of the attached associated or a local IP multicast address is only previously know to the router.

